

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of reporting a progress of an executing process, comprising:
generating a progress report in a progress reporting language, the
progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the
executing process; and
providing the progress report to a user interface mechanism capable of
10 interpreting the progress reporting language, the user interface mechanism
adapted for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the one or
more steps in the executing process.
2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein generating a progress report
15 in a progress reporting language comprises:
generating a step identifier identifying a step in the process and a step
description associated with the step identifier, the step description being
adapted for display by the user interface mechanism.
- 20 3. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step is to be performed
in the future.
4. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress report
in a progress reporting language further comprises:

generating a begin indicator indicating that execution of a step in the process identified by the step identifier is beginning.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein generating a progress report in a progress reporting language comprises:

generating a progress indicator indicating the progress of one of the steps in the executing process.

6. The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the progress indicator indicates a percentage of completion of the step of the executing process.

7. The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the progress indicator comprises one or more values indicating the progress of the step of the executing process.

8. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress report in a progress reporting language further comprises:

generating a progress indicator associated with the step identifier indicating the progress of a step identified by the step identifier.

9. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress report in a progress reporting language comprises:

providing a completion indicator indicating that execution of the step identified by the step identifier has completed.

10. A method of providing a progress associated with an executing
5 process, comprising:

receiving a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process;

10 ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress report; and

generating a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

11. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the progress reporting
15 language comprises a step identifier identifying a step in the process and a step description associated with the step identifier, the step description being adapted for display by the user interface mechanism.

12. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the step is to be performed
20 in the future.

13. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress reporting language comprises a begin indicator indicating that execution of a step in the process identified by the step identifier is beginning.

14. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the progress reporting language comprises a progress indicator indicating the progress of one of the steps in the executing process.

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15. The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the progress indicator indicates a percentage of completion of the step of the executing process.

16. The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the progress indicator
10 comprises one or more values indicating the progress of the step of the executing process.

17. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress reporting language comprises a progress indicator associated with the step identifier
15 indicating the progress of a step identified by the step identifier.

18. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress reporting language further comprises a completion indicator indicating that execution of the step identified by the step identifier has completed.

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19. A computer-readable medium storing thereon instructions for reporting a progress of an executing process, comprising:

instructions for generating a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process; and

instructions for providing the progress report to a user interface

- 5 mechanism capable of interpreting the progress reporting language, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

20. An apparatus for reporting a progress of an executing process,
10 comprising:
means for generating a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process; and
means for providing the progress report to a user interface mechanism
15 capable of interpreting the progress reporting language, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

21. An apparatus for reporting a progress of an executing process,
20 comprising:
a processor; and
a memory, at least one of the processor and the memory being adapted for:

generating a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process; and

providing the progress report to a user interface mechanism capable of
5 interpreting the progress reporting language, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

22. A computer-readable medium storing thereon instructions for
10 providing a progress associated with an executing process, comprising:
instructions for receiving a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process;
instructions for ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing
15 process from the progress report; and
instructions for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

23. An apparatus for providing a progress associated with an executing
20 process, comprising:
means for receiving a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process;

means for ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress report; and

means for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

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24. An apparatus for providing a progress associated with an executing process, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory, at least one of the processor and the memory being adapted

10 for:

receiving a progress report in a progress reporting language, the progress reporting language indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process;

15 ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress report; and

generating a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.